

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the Abstract with the following paragraph:

The present invention relates to an operating device characterized in that it comprises an active surface that is substantially non-wetting with respect to a liquid of interest; at least one zone for the localized capture of a drop of said liquid formed on said active surface; at least one operating zone arranged with a capture zone in such a way that the operating zone is at least partially covered by the drop of the liquid when said drop is captured by said capture zone; and means for leaving a drop of said liquid on said capture zone. This device makes it possible in particular to form high-density arrays of drops of said liquid on a surface, with the aim in particular of carrying out chemical and/or biochemical reactions and/or of analysing the liquid of interest in each drop. It finds, for example, an application in biological chips.